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DATE:

July 7, 2004

FILE NO:

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TO:

Examiner Andrew Fischer

FAX NO:

703/872-9306

COMPANY:

USPTO

FROM:

Gero G. McClellan

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ORIGINAL TO

FOLLOW? ☐ YES ☒ NO

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED April 15, 2004

U.S. SERIAL NO.:

09/848,573

FILING DATE:

May 3, 2001

INVENTOR:

Bates et al.

EXAMINER:

Andrew Fischer

GROUP ART UNIT:

3672

CONFIRMATION NO.:

6820

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE

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286280_1

In re Application of:

Bates et al.

From-Moser, Patterson & Sheridan L.L.P.

Serial No.: 09/848,573

Confirmation No.: 6829

Filed:

May 3, 2001

Systems and Methods For: **Operating Vending Machines**

യയയയയയയയയ Group Art Unit: 3627

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CENTRAL FAX CENTER

PATENT

JUL 07 2004

Examiner:

Fischer, A.

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF FAX 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office to fax number 703/872-9306 to the attention of Examiner Androw, Fischer on the date below:

July 7, 2004 Gero G. McClellan Date

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 15, 2004

In response to the Office Action dated April 15, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on July 15, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. While no fees are believed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 09-0465 for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper. Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.